

In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled).
2. (previously presented) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the first housing and the second housing are moveably connected in a longitudinal direction.
3. (canceled).
4. (canceled).
5. (canceled).
6. (previously presented) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the lower sides include contact pins for providing connectivity to the PCB.
7. (currently amended) A connector assembly comprising:
 - a first housing having a retention arm, said retention arm including a longitudinal portion and a perpendicular portion, said perpendicular portion including a first ridge; and
 - a second housing having an opening for receiving the retention arm, said second housing

including a second ridge within the opening, said retention arm being moved initially to a first direction in said opening and then in a different second direction in said opening, wherein the first ridge and the second ridge move toward and then past one another, so as to be fixedly engage engaged one another to hold the retention arm in the opening,

wherein the first housing and the second housing each have a lower side for connecting to a printed circuit board (PCB),

wherein at least one of the lower sides includes non-electrically conductive guide pins for aligning the first housing and the second housing with the PCB; and,

wherein the retention arm can move longitudinally within the opening from a point where the first ridge and the second ridge engage to a point where the retention arm abuts an end of the opening so as to ensure the proper alignment of the guide pins with the PCB.

8. (previously presented) The assembly of claim 7, wherein said second housing further includes a guide for aligning the first housing and the second housing.

9. (previously presented) The assembly of claim 7, wherein said first housing further includes a guide for aligning the first housing and the second housing.

10. (currently amended) The assembly of claim 7, wherein said first housing further includes a stop for ~~preventing~~ keeping the retention arm from passing completely through the opening first serrated ridge aligned with the second serrated ridge.

11. (previously presented) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the retention arm includes a plurality of retention arms and the opening includes a plurality of openings, wherein each retention arm is mounted in an associated opening.

12. (currently amended) An adjustable pin header assembly for mounting to a printed circuit board (PCB), said assembly accepting peripheral circuit elements and providing connectivity between the peripheral circuit elements and the PCB, the assembly comprising

at least one first header having an upper side for receiving a first set of peripheral circuit elements, a lower side having contact pins and guide pins extending therefrom in alignment with corresponding vias in the PCB, and a female connection mechanism; and

at least one second header having an upper side for receiving a second set of peripheral circuit elements, a lower side having contact pins and non-electrically conductive guide pins extending therefrom in alignment with corresponding vias in the PCB, and a male connection mechanism;

wherein the at least one second header is secured to the at least one first header by mounting the male connection mechanism in the female connection mechanism,

wherein the male connection mechanism comprises a retention arm including a longitudinal portion and a perpendicular portion, said perpendicular portion including a first serrated ridge,

wherein the female connection mechanism comprises an opening for receiving the retention arm, said opening including a second serrated ridge therein, said retention arm of said male

connection mechanism being moved initially in a first direction in said opening and then in a different second direction in said opening, wherein the first serrated ridge and the second serrated ridge move toward and then past one another, so as to be fixedly engaged ~~engages one another~~ to hold the retention arm in the opening; and,

wherein the retention arm can move longitudinally within the opening from a point where the first serrated ridge and the second serrated ridge engage to a point where the retention arm abuts an end of the opening so as to ensure the proper alignment of the guide pins of the at least one first and second headers with the PCB.

13. (original) The assembly of claim 12, wherein the at least one first header and the at least one second header can move longitudinally with respect to one another.

14. (original) The assembly of claim 12, wherein the male connection mechanism can move longitudinally within the female connection mechanism.

15. (currently amended) A printed circuit board (PCB) assembly comprising

a PCB; and

a movable pin header assembly connected to the PCB, wherein the movable pin header assembly includes a first header having a male connection mechanism formed therein and a second header having a female connection mechanism formed therein and the first header and the second header are mounted together,

wherein the first header and the second header each have a lower side for connecting to the PCB,

wherein at least one of the lower sides includes non-electrically conductive guide pins for aligning the first header and the second header with the PCB,

wherein the male connection mechanism comprises a retention arm including a longitudinal portion and a perpendicular portion, said perpendicular portion including a first serrated ridge,

wherein the female connection mechanism comprises an opening for receiving the retention arm, said opening including a second serrated ridge therein, wherein the first serrated ridge and the second serrated ridge fixedly engage one another to hold the retention arm in the opening; and,

wherein the retention arm can move longitudinally within the opening from a point where the first serrated ridge and the second serrated ridge engage to a point where the retention arm abuts an end of the opening so as to ensure the proper alignment of the guide pins of the first and second headers with the PCB.

16. (original) The assembly of claim 15, wherein said PCB includes vias and said movable pin header assembly includes pins in alignment with the vias.

17. (original) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the first header and the second header can move longitudinally with respect to one another prior to connection to the PCB to allow for alignment of the pins and the vias.

18. (currently amended) A method for manufacturing an adjustable pin header assembly, the method comprising:

fabricating a plurality of headers, wherein at least a first subset of the plurality of headers include a female connection mechanism and at least a second subset of the plurality of headers include a male connection mechanism; and

connecting at least a first header having a male connection mechanism to at least a second header having a female connection mechanism, wherein the first header and the second header can move longitudinally with respect to each other,

wherein the first subset of the plurality of headers and the second subset of the plurality of headers each have a lower side for connecting to a printed circuit board (PCB),

wherein at least one of the lower sides includes non-electrically conductive guide pins for aligning the first subset of the plurality of headers and the second subset of the plurality of headers with the PCB,

wherein the male connection mechanism comprises a retention arm including a longitudinal portion and a perpendicular portion, said perpendicular portion including a first serrated ridge,

wherein the female connection mechanism comprises an opening for receiving the retention arm, said opening including a second serrated ridge therein, said retention of said male connection mechanism being moved initially in a first direction in said opening and then in a second direction in said opening substantially perpendicular to the first direction, wherein the first serrated ridge and the second serrated ridge move toward and then past one another in the second direction to fixedly engage one another to hold the retention arm in the opening; and,

wherein the retention arm can move longitudinally within the opening from a point where the first serrated ridge and the second serrated ridge engage to a point where the retention arm abuts an end of the opening so as to ensure the proper alignment of the guide pins of the at least one first and second headers with the PCB.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein the male connection mechanism can move within the female connection mechanism to allow the first header to move longitudinally with respect to the second header.

20. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein each of the plurality of headers is fabricated independently of each other.

21. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein said fabricating includes

fabricating a housing for each of the headers, wherein each of the housings include receptacles for receiving pins; and

inserting pins in appropriate receptacles in the housings, wherein the pins are used to connect the headers to a printed circuit board.

22. (canceled).

23. (canceled).

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24. (canceled).

25. (currently amended) The method of claim 24~~18~~, wherein said connecting includes inserting the retention arm in the opening until the first serrated ridge passes the second serrated ridge.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the retention arm can move within the opening from a point where the first serrated ridge and the second serrated ridge engage to a point where the terminating end of the retention arm abuts a terminating end of the opening.